

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please replace claims 1, 19, 35, 53, and 87 currently pending in the application with the following amended claims.

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(Amended) A polymer blend for fabricating monolayer films or a layer within a multilayer film, the blend comprising:
a first component selected from the group of: (1) ethylene and α -olefin copolymers having a density of less than about 0.915 g/cc, (2) ethylene copolymerized with lower alkyl acrylates, (3) ethylene copolymerized with lower alkyl substituted alkyl acrylates and (4) ionomers, the first component being present in an amount from about 99% to about 55% by weight of the blend;
a second component in an amount by weight of the blend from about 45% to about 1 % and consists of one or more polymers of the group: (1) propylene containing polymers, (2) polybutene polymers, (3) polymethylpentene polymers, (4) cyclic olefin containing polymers and (5) bridged polycyclic hydrocarbon containing polymers; and,
the blend when fabricated into a film having a modulus of elasticity when measured in accordance with ASTM D882 of less than about 60,000 psi, an internal haze when measured in accordance with ASTM D1003 of less than about 25%, an internal adhesion ranking of greater than about 2, a sample creep at 120°C under 27 psi loading of less than or equal to 150% for a film having a thickness of from about 5 mils to about 15 mils, and the film being capable of being heat sealed into a container having seals wherein the seals remain intact when the container is autoclaved at 121°C for one hour.

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19. (Amended) The blend of claim 18 wherein the blend when fabricated into a film having a modulus of elasticity when measured in accordance with ASTM D882 of less than about 60,000 psi, an internal haze when measured in accordance with ASTM D1003 of less than about 25%, an internal adhesion ranking of greater than about 2, a sample creep at 120°C under 27 psi loading of less than or equal to 150% for a film having a thickness of from about 5 mils to

A2 about 15 mils, and the film being capable of being heat sealed into a container having seals wherein the seals remain intact when the container is autoclaved at 121°C for one hour.

Sub B1 35. (Amended) A monolayer film comprising:
a first component selected from the group of: (1) ethylene and α -olefin copolymers having a density of less than about 0.915 g/cc, (2) ethylene copolymerized with lower alkyl acrylates, (3) ethylene copolymerized with lower alkyl substituted alkyl acrylates and (4) ionomers, the first component being present in an amount from about 99% to about 55% by weight of the blend;

A3 a second component in an amount by weight of the blend from about 45% to about 1 % and consists of one or more polymers of the group: (1) propylene containing polymers, (2) polybutene polymers, (3) polymethylpentene polymers, (4) cyclic olefin containing polymers and (5) bridged polycyclic hydrocarbon containing polymers; and,

the film has a modulus of elasticity when measured in accordance with ASTM D882 of less than about 60,000 psi, an internal haze when measured in accordance with ASTM D1003 of less than about 25%, an internal adhesion ranking of greater than about 2, a sample creep at 120°C under 27 psi loading of less than or equal to 150% for a film having a thickness of from about 5 mils to about 15 mils, and the film being capable of being heat sealed into a container having seals wherein the seals remain intact when the container is autoclaved at 121°C for one hour.

Sub B1 33. (Amended) The film of claim 52 has a modulus of elasticity when measured in accordance with ASTM D882 of less than about 60,000 psi, an internal haze when measured in accordance with ASTM D1003 of less than about 25%, an internal adhesion ranking of greater than about 2, a sample creep at 120°C under 27 psi loading of less than or equal to 150% for a film having a thickness of from about 5 mils to about 15 mils, and the film being capable of being heat sealed into a container having seals wherein the seals remain intact when the container is autoclaved at 121°C for one hour.

Sub B1 87. (Amended) The method of claim 86 wherein the film has a modulus of elasticity when measured in accordance with ASTM D882 of less than about 60,000 psi, an internal haze when measured in accordance with ASTM D1003 of less than about 25%, an internal adhesion

AS ranking of greater than about 2, a sample creep at 120°C under 27 psi loading of less than or equal to 150% for a film having a thickness of from about 5 mils to about 15 mils, and the film being capable of being heat sealed into a container having seals wherein the seals remain intact when the container is autoclaved at 121°C for one hour.
